





## **MISSION**

Bring awareness, education and resources to Northwest Arkansas encouraging people to talk about substance use disorder for the purpose of preventing addiction and overdoses.

## **GOAL**

Encourage discussions between parents and youth about the dangers of drug use, the perils of addiction and the dangerous, and sometimes deadly, consequences through early and on-going education by partnering with local agencies and stakeholders to create a collective impact.

## **Tristan's Story**

Our son, Tristan, died from an accidental overdose at age 21 from Cocaine that was laced with Fetanyl, an opioid that, when used correctly is highly addictive and, in its pure form, is deadly.

Tristan was a clean cut, smart, adventurous spirit with dreams and a love of the outdoors.

Like many others, Tristan began using marijuana recreationally in high school with friends. He quickly moved to buying Aderall from a friend who told him that it would help with test performance and then he moved on to Xanax.

Tristan once loved to mountain bike, snowboard and wakeboard. He worked as a bike mechanic in high school and had started college to major in envionmental science. Once the addiction took hold Tristan was unable and unmotivated to do any of these things. Drugs stole his passions, his skills and his dreams.

Before he died Tristan was able to convince one of his friends to get into treatment. That person is alive and doing well today. Tristan said that had one of his friends encouraged him to get clean that he would have done it.

Even when parents SPEAKUP kids need support from friends.

Speakup About Drugs, it may save a life.